

Virginia Emergency Operations Center

Hazardous Materials Incident Situation Report #2 As of 2000 hours, 15 March 2005

New information in Italics

SITUATION:

On Thursday, March 10, 2005, a detection alarm alert was activated on a machine that tests for anthrax bacteria at the Pentagon Remote Delivery Facility (RDF), located in Arlington County. It was determined to be false and no additional alarms were noted on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. On Monday, March 14, 2005, Arlington County Fire Department and Hazmat Units responded to the (RDF) following a lab report indicating positive for the presence of anthrax. The RDF was evacuated while tests were conducted.

On Monday, March 14, 2005, Fairfax County Fire and Rescue along with Hazardous Materials units reported a response to a second Department of Defense mail facility referred to as the Skyline facility, located at 5111 Leesburg Pike, Bailey's Crossroads area, reference a mail handler alarm on mail coming from the Pentagon. Mailroom personnel (approximately 45) were decontaminated and the remaining personnel (approximately 2000) were sheltered in place until testing was completed. Personnel were questioned and released at approximately 2100 hours, 14 March.

Lab samples were taken from both facilities and forwarded to Fort Dietrich, MD for additional testing.

Pentagon medical officials placed approximately 263 personnel on 3 day Cipro antibiotic regimen.

Filters from machines located in the RDF and the Skyline facility are being collected and sent to Fort Dietrich for testing.

CONTIGUOUS STATES ACTIVITIES:

Washington, DC

- Approximately 150 Postal workers at upstream postal facility located at V Street receiving 3 day Cipro regimen through D.C. Health Department.

Maryland

- *Monitoring situations in Virginia and Washington, D.C.*

ONGOING STATE AND LOCAL ACTIVITIES:

Arlington County

- Arlington County Emergency Operations Center operational as of 1823 hours, 14 March, with minimal staffing and continues to monitor situation awaiting confirmatory test results.

Fairfax County

- *Fairfax County partially activated its Alternate Emergency Operations Center as of 16:30, 15 March and stood down at 1930 hours. Unless the situation changes through the night, the Alternate Emergency Operations Center will not be opening on 16 March.*
- Unified Command was established with representatives from local and federal officials to include Department of Defense, FBI and Health Departments. Fairfax County Health Department is lead local agency.
- Fairfax County conducted 1130 press conference at Skyline Facility.
- Law enforcement investigation ongoing.

Virginia Department of Health

- *Additional staff deployed to Health District Alternate Operations Center*
- *Staff continues to answer hot line (703) 246-2411*
- *Monitor confirmatory test results through Department of Consolidated Laboratory Services*
- *Requested that CDC be prepared to deploy Vendor Management Inventory (VMI) from CDC for supply of prophylactic medications appropriate to situation.*
- *Planning continues for setting up dispensing site beginning at 0900 hours, 16 March, located at Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035, if necessary.*
- Activated VDH Emergency Coordination Center (ECC) at 1300 hours exchanging Liaison Officer with VDEM.
- Continue sharing information with neighboring jurisdictions and agencies.
- Moving antibiotics to Fairfax with assistance from VA State Police. Developing evolving Public Information products.
- Participating on multiple conference calls.
- Continue to monitor Pentagon and Skyline incidents awaiting confirmatory test results.

Virginia State Police

- Assist VDH with movement of antibiotics

Virginia Department of Emergency Management

- *The Virginia Emergency Operations Center (VEOC) augmented staff as of 0800 hours, 15 March*
- *A Joint Information Center (JIC) has been activated, as of 1300 hours, 15 March, at Fairfax County alternate Emergency Operations Center.*
- VDEM Regional Hazmat Officer and Local Support Services Regional Coordinator assisting localities as requested.
- Continue to monitor situation awaiting confirmatory test results.
- Participating on multiple conference calls.

PROJECTED ACTIONS:

- *Secure shift rotation support for prolonged activities (VDH, VDEM)*
- *VDH assist in deployment of HD personnel from unaffected areas, if needed to support NoVA efforts.*
- *Monitor health care facilities for evidence of symptomatic patients, pending incubation period (VDH)*
- Assist localities as needed Planning for potential dispensing of prophylaxis, if required.
- Continue to coordinate public information/press releases
- Continue to monitor situation and participate in conference calls

- The next Situation Report will be issued on 16 March 2005 at 1000 hours, unless there is a significant change.

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